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WARRIORS

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Getting Battle Ready in Iraq

Anchorage resident Sergeant First Class Ramon Gutierrez leads close order battle drills with Mongolian soldiers in Iraq. Gutierrez, an Alaska Army National Guardsman, is a liaison with the Mongolians assigned to Coalition Forces. Gutierrez and another Alaskan, Major Steven Wilson, are serving with the Mongolians as a result of the recent State Partnership Agreement set up between Alaska and Mongolia. Photo: Alaska National Guard



Fitting honor for Territorial Guard at Byers Lake Veterans Memorial.

Alaska's Veterans Affairs Administrator Charlie Huggins, left, hands Major General Craig Campbell a copy of a Memorandum of Understanding that sets up official discharge procedures for the once overlooked veterans of the famed World War II Alaska Territorial Guard. Congress officially recognized contributions by members of the ATG and declared them as veterans for the purpose of eligibility to receive federal benefits in late 2002. Only the State of Alaska had previously honored members of the ATG and their families for their contributions in both WWII and the early part of the Cold War.

Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK-PA

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Letters: Letters to the editor must be signed and include the writer's full name and mailing address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. **Submissions:** Print and visual submissions of general interest to our diverse civilian employees, Alaska National Guard military members,

veterans, and families are invited and encouraged. Please send articles and photos with name, phone number, e-mail, complete mailing address and comments to:

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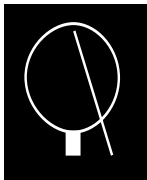
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Dispatches from the Front...

Guard Activated

FORT GREELY... Approximately 40 Alaska Army National Guard soldiers were called to Federal Active Duty to add another layer of security to the ground missile defense facilities at Fort Greely.

"They will be in direct support of the Guard's Missile Defense and Space Battalion operations at Fort Greely," said Major Mike Haller, public affairs officer with the Guard. The soldiers are from Fairbanks B Company 1st Scout Battalion, 207th Infantry Group.

They will augment the Guard's Military Police Company already at Fort Greely. They are from Fairbanks, Nome, Barrow and other Interior and Western Alaskan communities.



Extended enlistment. B Company soldiers extend enlistment prior to activation. Photo: Specialist Michael Coleman, 117th MPAD

Stranded Hunters Rescued from Icy Waters

NOME... Alaska Army National Guard aviators rescued four hunters from the grips of a Bering Sea ice flow in the early morning of April 22. The hunters became trapped when sea ice began to close in around them during the prime spring hunting season in, around, and on the Bering Sea.

According to Alaska Air National Guard Master Sergeant Carla Fielding, with the Rescue Coordination Center at Camp Denali, four hunters from the Stebbins area were hunting in what had been open water near Stuart Island, 110 miles southeast of Nome, when they became entangled in moving pack ice.

Army National Guard UH-60L Blackhawk pilots Captain Robert Seymour and Chief Warrant Officer Don Bradford spotted the boat trapped in the ice, 10 miles northwest of Stuart Island. They were able to maneuver the helicopter into position and rescue all four.

Anchor Point Students Tour C-130 Hercules

HOMER... An air crew from the Alaska Air National Guard's 144th Airlift Squadron flew to Homer to fulfill the request of an enthusiastic social studies teacher who wanted his students to experience the military's frontline mission aircraft.

Gary Van Hooser, a retired Guardsman himself, works at Chapman School in Anchor Point, and as part of his history curriculum for sixth, seventh and eighth graders, he teaches the impact of air travel and the importance of the military to Alaska. Forty-five of his students were bussed to Homer Airport to meet crewmembers from the Air Guard and tour their C-130 Hercules.

Homeland Security & Emergency Management Team Responds to Spring Flooding

DELTA JUNCTION... On May 9, the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management dispatched Emergency Management Assistant George Coyle to the City of Delta Junction in response to a local disaster declaration for severe flooding, caused by heavy rains and spring snowmelt. Coyle coordinated with the American Red Cross and the State Departments of Transportation & Public Facilities, Environmental Conservation, and Public Safety in getting sandbags and drinking water to families until flood waters receded. Emergency Management Specialist Dave Andrews assisted Coyle in doing initial damage assessments for the area.

Keep up to date on activities and events within the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs with a visit to our Web site at: www.ak-prepared.com/dmva. ■

Where in the World

Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers Advise Mongolians In Iraq

Two of Alaska's Army National Guard soldiers are involved with a rare opportunity – assigned as embedded U.S. liaisons with troops from Mongolia who are serving with Coalition Forces in Iraq. These Alaska soldiers train with and advise Mongolians as they provide support among Coalition Forces.

Sergeant First Class Ramon Gutierrez, from Anchorage, is providing liaison between U.S. and Mongolian Forces. "He is working with individual soldiers on their combat skills and acting as one of our go-to-guys for the Mongolians," said Major Mike Haller, public affairs officer with the Alaska National Guard.

Gutierrez is a team leader with the Guard's 207th Long Range Surveillance Detachment. He is also a full-time staff member with the Alaska National Guard Youth Challenge Academy at Camp Carroll.

Major Steven Wilson, from Eagle River, is also deployed with Gutierrez. "Steve is doing much the same (as Ramon) working with the Mongolian officers," Haller added.

Wilson is a member of the Alaska National Guard's Second Battalion (Scout) of the 207th Infantry Group. He is an instructor with the University of Alaska Anchorage.

"This opportunity came about shortly after Alaska agreed to take part in the U.S. Departments of State and Defense State Partnership Program between Mongolian Forces and the Alaska National Guard," Haller said. "This includes sharing information,



First Scouts Gain New Commander.

Major Leonard E. (Chip) Andrews, Jr. passes the 1st Battalion 297th Infantry colors to Command Sergeant Major Harold Tolan in a Change-of-Command ceremony in Nome on May 2. Andrews exchanged command with outgoing commander Lieutenant Colonel Leon M. (Mike) Bridges who will be taking a position at the National Guard Armory in Anchorage.

Photo: Sergeant Ken Denny, 117th MPAD



So happy to see dad. Sergeant Raymond Vasofski gets welcome hugs from his boys as he returns from Kuwait. Vasofski, a C-23B+ Sherpa flight engineer with the Alaska Army National Guard's 1/207th Aviation Regiment, was part of an Alaskan Sherpa aircrew that included CW2 Wayne Horton and CW4 JD Baxter serving in Kuwait and the surrounding areas of operation. Photo: Specialist Laura Griffin, 117th MPAD

approaching how we do the business of government and the military, and investigating cultural and social ties between the two partners." ■

New Era Begins at Clear Air Force Station

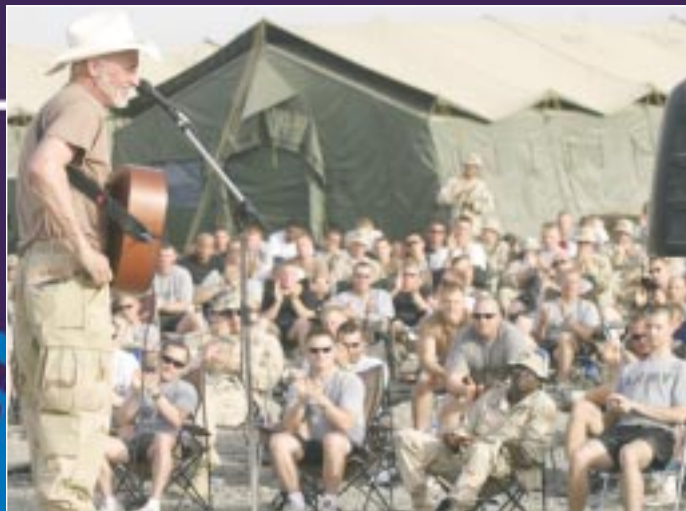
Alaska's Air National Guard recognized its newest unit – Headquarters, Alaska Air National Guard, Detachment 1, in a ceremony held at Clear Air Force Station on May 21.

Clear has been a remote Air Force Station for about 40 years. Active duty Air Force members have come here without their families for a year at a time to conduct the mission of missile warning and space surveillance for North America.

Members of Alaska's Air National Guard are replacing the Air Force active duty unit at Clear AFS, the 13th Space Warning Squadron. In June 2006, Detachment 1 will be renamed the 213th Space Warning Squadron, and the Air Force's 13th SWS will stand down. Two



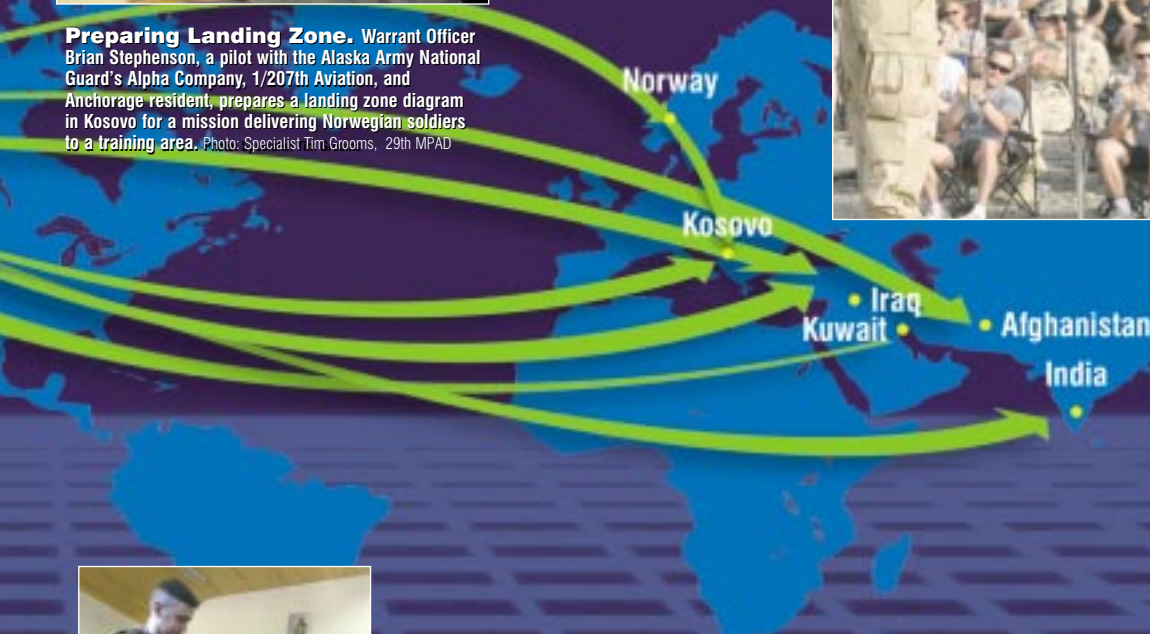
Preparing Landing Zone. Warrant Officer Brian Stephenson, a pilot with the Alaska Army National Guard's Alpha Company, 1/207th Aviation, and Anchorage resident, prepares a landing zone diagram in Kosovo for a mission delivering Norwegian soldiers to a training area. Photo: Specialist Tim Grooms, 29th MPAD



Entertainment for the Troops.

Hobo Jim entertains Alaskan forces in Afghanistan during a USO tour.

Photo: Major Rachel Osborn, NSAR



Five airmen from the 176th Transportation Squadron and five airmen from the 168th Transportation Squadron are deployed at Camp Speicher, in Tikrit, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 10 airmen are attached to an active duty Army transportation company.



Medic. Using a volunteer from the fire department, Specialist Logan Haller, a medic attached to the 2/136th Infantry (Kosovo), demonstrates techniques for clearing obstructed airways.

Photo: Sergeant Jon Soucy, 29th MPAD

An international effort against terrorism.

Soldiers from the Alaska Army National Guard, active duty soldiers from the Army's 172nd Infantry from Fort Wainwright and Indian army soldiers participate in PT together at the Indian Counter Insurgency Jungle Warfare School in India. Photo: Alaska Army National Guard



active duty Air Force and two Canadian Forces members will remain as liaisons to the 213th SWS.

"We're extremely proud of the opportunity to step up to this new mission," said Major General Craig Campbell, Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. "We've been working hard to get to this point and we know that our crews are ready as we become part of this command. We understand our role as a key force provider for this mission."

This year, 23 of the 39 Air Guardsmen have arrived, and 39 positions

have been filled. Nine traditional, part-time Guard positions will also be added to the Station.

The 13th SWS's primary mission is to provide early warning of inter-continental Ballistic Missiles and Sea-Launched Ballistic Missiles to the Missile Warning Center at North American Aerospace Defense Command, Cheyenne Mountain AFS, Colorado. Its secondary mission is to provide space surveillance data on orbiting objects to the Space Control Center, also at Cheyenne Mountain AFS.

Because of their excellent tracking capabilities, these radars are also useful for tracking near-earth satellites. The data they generate ensures that the Space Control Center is able to accurately keep track of more than 8,000 objects in orbit. This allows them to keep manned objects, like the Space Shuttle and International Space Station, out of harm's way and to closely monitor objects re-entering the atmosphere. ■



My Turn

Major General Craig E. Campbell
Commissioner, Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

Alaska's Transformation

Since we've last met on these pages, a great deal of good things have happened to, and within, our Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

As you know, we've been working very hard to transform the military parts of the DMVA to ensure their relevance to America's Army and Air Force. To that end, Brigadier General Tim Scott of the Alaska Air National Guard and Brigadier General Craig Christensen of the Alaska Army National Guard have stepped forward with their proposed plans for the future of each organization. Some will call these bold ideas and forward thinking. All of the DMVA leadership team has had a chance to look plans over, comment on them and help present them to our commander-in-chief Governor Frank Murkowski, our congressional delegation, members of our legislative leadership in Juneau and to our friends at the National Guard Bureau, Pacific Command, US Army Pacific, the Pacific Air Forces, and many others.

We recently brought our leaders together for a conference at the Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge to present and discuss the plans, to hear from our senior national military command authorities and to discuss and modestly refit our five-year DMVA plan. It is my

intent, in the next edition of *Warriors* Magazine, to discuss our plans with you in detail. Alaska and our nation need us to do the right things – provide citizen soldiers and airmen who are “ready to serve” right now. We're also expected to plan for the future and consider our abilities to get the right fit and mix of soldiers and airmen, units and equipment and missions that will ensure our readiness and reliability for years to come.

We're working hard to ensure our success. We need you to be equally involved and committed. Your efforts matter; what you are doing is important, and what we're accomplishing together is significant. ■



Transformation to new aircraft on his mind. Major General Craig E. Campbell, Adjutant General for the Alaska National Guard, test flies a CASA C-295 Airlifter during a recent visit by the aircraft manufacturer. Alaska's Army National Guard has nearly 80 armories and facilities across the state – only seven can be reached by roadway. Getting the right aircraft to match the mission requirements is essential. Lockheed's C-27J Spartan is also a top competitor. They've previously visited Alaska.

Photo: Mark Farmer, Associated Press

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Veterans

First Veterans' Memorial Endowment Grants Awarded

The Alaska Veteran's Advisory Council approved grants totaling \$10,000 under the new Veterans' Memorial Endowment Grant program via teleconference on May 4, 2004.

The program was developed last year to assist communities with establishing or enhancing veteran memorials. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and must be matched dollar for dollar or with "sweat equity" from the applicant, according to Charlie Huggins, Veteran Affairs Administrator.

"Recipients of the 2004 grants are Ketchikan, Glennallen, Petersburg, Klukwan and Juneau," Huggins said. "Ketchikan was awarded \$500 for making additions of three service members killed in action on a granite plaque."

Glennallen received \$1,000 to help build and dedicate a new memorial. An addition to allow access for handicapped visitors and other enhancements earned a \$2,400 grant for Petersburg. Juneau's award of \$3,000 for sensor lights was approved and Klukwan will receive \$3,100 to enhance the area around the existing memorial.



A home for veterans. Governor Frank H. Murkowski signs Senate Bill 301 designating the Palmer Pioneers Home as an Alaska Veterans Home, at a ceremony at the facility June 15th. On hand for the signing, left, Representative Carl Gatto, Palmer; Representative Stepovich, Fairbanks; and Senator Lyda Greene, Wasilla, who cosponsored the bill. Under the new statute, veterans' benefits will cover a significant portion of living and treatment costs in the Alaska Veterans' Home. Photo: Sergeant Ken Denny, 117th MPAD

Applications for Veterans' Memorial Endowment Grants for 2005 must be received at the Office of Veteran Affairs no later than December 1, 2004. For additional information, please contact Charlie Huggins at (907) 428-6016. ■

Grants at a Glance

Ketchikan	\$ 500	to add three service members killed in action to the granite plaque
Glennallen	\$1,000	to assist in building and dedicating new memorial
Petersburg	\$2,400	to add handicap access and other enhancements
Juneau	\$3,000	for sensor lights
Klukwan	\$3,100	to enhance the area around the existing memorial

A Salute at Buyers Lake Veterans' Memorial

Former Lieutenant Governor Red Boucher, a WWII combat veteran, spoke to more than 400 veterans and their families at the annual Memorial Day event at Byers Lake on the Parks Highway. Boucher, a retired US Navy Chief Petty Officer, joined the Service at age 16. He survived several hundred aerial combat missions and kamikaze attacks on his carrier, the USS Enterprise. Boucher gave credit for the many accomplishments in his life to a WW II shipmate, who, dying in his arms, told Boucher to "live my life for me." After his Naval Service, Boucher came home to Alaska and proceeded to fulfill his promise to his friend. He went into business and created the Fairbanks' Goldpanners Baseball Club, became mayor of Fairbanks, then Lieutenant Governor, later a member of the Alaska Legislature, and served on the Anchorage Assembly. He has hosted his own statewide television program, *Alaska Online*, for more than 10 years. ■



Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK-PA



Presidential Awards for Service

The Alaska Military Youth Academy and two recent Academy graduates have been awarded "Gold" President's Volunteer Service Awards for their community service contributions in 2003.

Alaska Military Youth Academy Cadet Graduate Alexx Cozzetti earned her gold award for contributing more than 500 hours of service to others through "Diverse Community Service Activities." Cadet Graduate Morgan Bishop was awarded the gold for his "Diverse Military Service Activities." Bishop and Cozzetti are both graduates of the Youth Academy's ChalleNGe Program Class 2003-04.

"All ChalleNGe cadets are required to perform a minimum of 40 hours of community service while at the Academy," says the school's Director, Tim Jones. "These two young adults went way beyond requirements and continued to serve our communities through their own efforts. We are very proud of them."

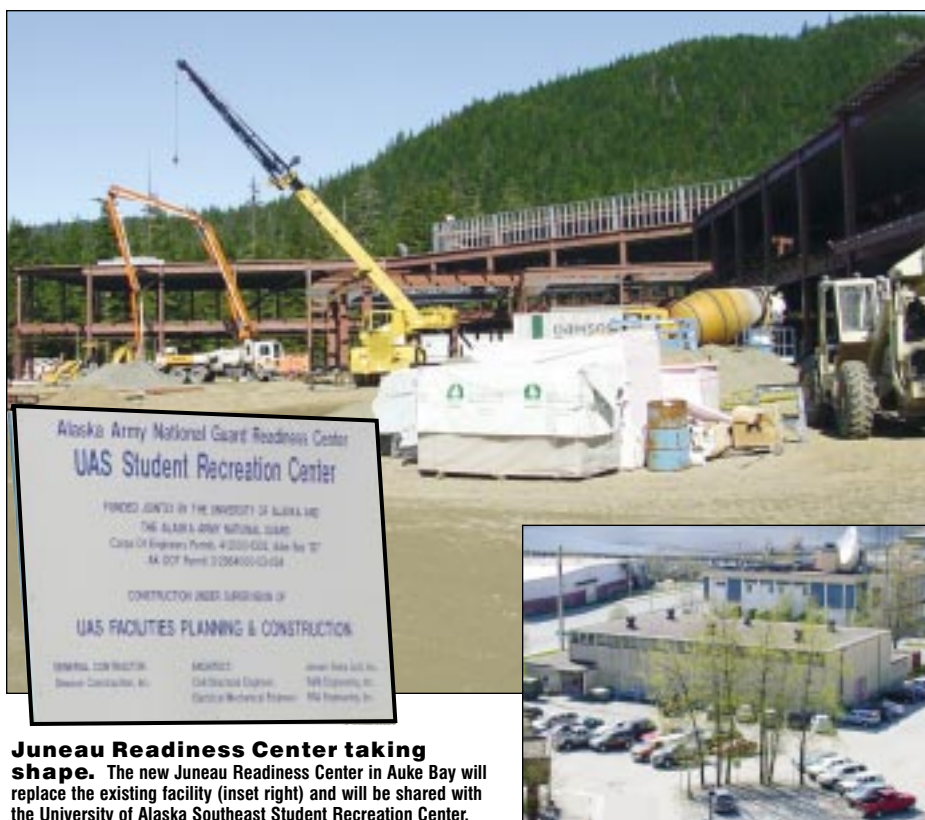
The third gold award, presented to the Youth Academy, was earned by the school's more than 34,000 hours of community service contributed by more than 200 cadets and instructors throughout the greater Anchorage area during the past year. Academy-directed service projects included support for the Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling, the Municipality of Anchorage, Fort Richardson, Elmendorf Air Force Base, the Anchorage People Mover system, area non-profit fundraising efforts and sporting events.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and of Colleges and Universities. The Academy's ChalleNGe Program accepts applications from 16- to 18-year old Alaskans. Admissions offices are located on Fort Richardson and in Fairbanks. For more information about the Academy, or any of its programs, please call Ed Wicher at (907) 384-6120. ■

A Leap of Faith...



Getting ready. Cadets, from the current class of the Alaska National Guard's Military Youth Academy ChalleNGe Program, prepare to "leap" off the jump tower near Camp Carroll, on Fort Richardson. The training is used to promote confidence, attention to detail, and to motivate new students to reach higher in their lives. Photo: Ed Wicher, AMYA



Juneau Readiness Center taking shape. The new Juneau Readiness Center in Auke Bay will replace the existing facility (inset right) and will be shared with the University of Alaska Southeast Student Recreation Center.

Photos: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK-PA

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Tuition Programs for Guard Members

It is time once again to begin registering for classes for the Fall 2004 semester. If you are an eligible Alaska National Guard Member seeking state tuition assistance please note the sign up dates and the registration information for the following programs.

Sign Up: Fall Semester 2004/Spring 2005

University of Alaska Tuition Scholarship Program

- August 11, 2004 (Fall Semester) starting at 0800 at the Fort Richardson Armory
- December 8, 2004 (Spring Semester) starting at 0800 at the Fort Richardson Armory

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLYING:

University of Alaska Tuition Scholarship Program

- Completed and Signed TAG FORM 621-5R
- Unofficial University of Alaska Account Summary
- University of Alaska Registration
- BE ENROLLED IN A DEGREE PROGRAM

Non-University of Alaska In-State Tuition Reimbursement

- Sign up any time after July 1, 2004 for the 2004-05 Academic Year
- Completed and Signed TAG FORM 629-A
- Unofficial Account Summary from the college/university of attendance
- College/University Registration
- Copy of Receipt of Payment
- BE ENROLLED IN A DEGREE or CERTIFICATE AWARDING PROGRAM

For more information contact the Education and Retention Office at the Mission Personnel Flight or Lieutenant Colonel Jerry Kidrick at the numbers listed below.

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Anchorage, AK 99502	Eielson, AFB, AK 99702	COMM: (907) 428-6477
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RESCUED...*from Nabesna Glacier*

WEATHER AND ALTITUDE WERE FACTORS IN RESCUE EFFORT



Story by Specialist Kelsea Vandergriff

Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK-PA

CAMP DENALI... When you're a Pararescueman with the Alaska Air National Guard's 210th Rescue Squadron, a day at the office doesn't take on its usual meaning – and Wednesday, June 2, was no exception.

The Rescue Coordination Center (RCC), at Camp Denali on Fort Richardson, was notified very early the morning of June 2, that a young woman with the National Outdoor Leadership School was in medical distress at 9,000 feet on the Nabesna Glacier in the Wrangell mountains, in the Wrangell-Saint Elias National Park and Preserve near the Canadian border.

Initially, the RCC dispatched an

Alaska Air National Guard HC-130 Hercules Rescue Tanker and HH-60G Pavehawk helicopter at approximately 7:00 a.m.

The 17-year-old female climber was suffering from severe acid reflux disease. Though she was conscious and resting, a doctor from Providence Alaska Medical Center recommended she should be evacuated from the glacier and brought to a hospital as soon as possible.

The weather was not on the same side as the rescuers. The Pavehawk helicopter crew was unable to reach the climber due to adverse conditions and zero visibility. Meanwhile, the Guard added another aircraft to the rescue

mission. A C-130 Hercules, from the 144th Airlift Squadron at Kulis ANG Base adjacent to Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport was dispatched to provide logistical support.

"Though this wasn't an exceptionally rare mission, what made it remarkable was the length of the operation paired with the challenge of high altitude and the distance from Anchorage," said Lieutenant Colonel Charles Foster, Commander of the 210th Air Rescue Squadron. "It was our air refueling capabilities that even made this mission possible."

Because the helicopters hovered around 10,000 feet for such a long



Rescue mission. Nabesna Glacier is 60 miles from the Canadian border.

time, the crew had to maintain a proper balance of fuel. The helicopters were refueled in the air four times during the mission.

Pararescuemen were deployed to the 7,000-foot level and climbed to the injured climber when the Pavhawk crew realized visibility would remain too poor to land at the site. Later, after climbing back down 2,000 feet, the team and climber were extracted by an HH-60 crew who'd made it safely to the landing site at 7,000-feet.

Subsequently, the young woman was

transferred to the HC-130 at Gulkana Airport for medical evacuation to Anchorage and a hospital.

"(The young climber's) situation was improved immensely because the instructor-led team on the ground did an excellent job supporting the patient as well as supporting the rescue," Foster said. "They were well prepared and willing to ask for help, which is critical in this kind of mission. They asked for help in a timely manner and stopped what they were doing to assist the recovery even though this created a

serious disruption to their plan, which is significant for the type of trip they were conducting,".

It took both night and day Hercules and Helicopter alert crews 19 hours to prosecute the mission. But after a total of 25.2 hours flown and 11 sorties, the patient – dehydrated but stable – was transported safely to a hospital.

Also noteworthy was the impact of the Global Personnel Recovery System. The system was undergoing a test in conjunction with Northern Edge '04 when this real-world situation developed. Both alert aircraft and the Kulis Air National Guard Base Command Post were outfitted with the system, which allowed the command post team to know where the aircraft was in near-real time and provided instantaneous text messaging.

"The GPRS provided a real benefit to the people here," Foster said. "It worked out well because both sides had really good situational awareness, which contributed to the overall safety of the operation."

The 210th Rescue Squadron flies approximately 300 missions per year resulting in approximately 100 lives saved. As of the end of May, the RCC has completed 88 missions, which have resulted in 26 lives saved and 9 assists. ■

HH-60G Pavhawk General Characteristics

Primary Function: Combat search and rescue; military operations other than war in day, night or marginal weather conditions.

Thrust: 1,560-1,940 shaft horsepower, each engine

Length: 64 feet, 8 inches

Height: 16 feet, 8 inches

Rotor Diameter: 53 feet, 7 inches

Speed: 184 mph (294.4 kph)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 22,000 pounds (9,900 kilograms)

Range: 445 statute miles; 504 nautical miles (unlimited with air refueling)

Unit Cost: \$9.3 million

Date Deployed: 1982

Inventory: Active force, 64; ANG, 18; Reserve, 23



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Lonestar Restaurant
Lynden Air Cargo
McDonald's
McKinley Capital Management
MCN Construction
Millennium Alaskan Hotel
Mohawk Marketing Corp.
Mountain Tops
Municipality of Anchorage
Fire Department
Police Department
Water & Wastewater Utility
Health & Human Services
NAC
Napa Auto Parts
NC Machinery
Neptune Shoreside
Network Business Systems
North Pacific Fishery Management
North Slope Borough
North Star Academy
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Corrections
Court System
Military & Veterans Affairs
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Public Safety
Sustina Neurology
T.G.I. Fridays
The Carpet Man
The Hilton Anchorage
The Satellite Guy
Trailboss Enterprises
U.S. Postal Service
U-Haul of Alaska
Univar USA
University of Alaska Anchorage
UPS
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Veco Alaska Inc.
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Well Safe Inc.
Wells Fargo Bank
Weston Solutions Inc
Wood Group

Angoon

T&H Housing Authority

Bethel

Lower Kuskokwim School District
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corp.

Chugiak

Hilltop Sales & Service

Clear AFS

Arctec Services

Delta Junction

Family Medical Center
Ft. Greely Police Dept.

Eagle River

Evangelical Covenant Church
Hartley & Sons Construction
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354th Services Squadron
AAFES
Arctic Slope World Services
CES

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SAIC

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ABC Inc.
Airgas Nor-Pac
Alaska State Troopers
Arctic Office Products
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Fairbanks Correctional Center
Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
Fairbanks Native Association
Fairbanks Nissan VW Daewoo
Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Fort Knox Mine
Fred Meyers
Golden Heart Utilities
Interior Medical Supply
K & L Distributors
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KUAC Alaska One Public Television
Laidlaw
Lithia
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Odom Corporation
Opal Creek
Pepsico of Fairbanks
Serurita's Security
Shiemiks

State of Alaska
DOT&PF
Fairbanks Airport Safety
Tanana Valley Clinic
Tanna Chiefs Conference Inc.
University of Alaska Fairbanks
US Dept. of Justice (DEA)
US Postal Service
Yukon-Koyukuk School District

Fort Yukon

Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments

Ft Greely

Boeing

Ft. Richardson

Buckner Physical Fitness Center
Defense Services
Department of the Army
State of Alaska (DSES)

Ft. Wainwright

AAFES
Alaska Fire Service (BLM)
Chugach McKingle
DOL/IMF
Field Support Services
Raytheon
TSI

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Alyeska Resort

Homer

Dragonfly Aero

Ignatius, MT

S&K Technologies

Juneau

Alaska Laundry & Cleaners
Alaska Marine Highway System
McDowell Group
Med Com
US Forest Service
Valley Medical Care

Kenai

R&K Industrial

Monroe, WA

Monroe Police Dept

Nenana

Nenana Police Services

Nome

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Sitka

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Keeping the Peace and

1/207TH AVIATION IN KOSOVO

Story and Photo by Army Specialist Tim Grooms
29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Maryland Army National Guard



Staff Sergeant Arturo Bautista, a crew chief with Alaska Army National Guard's Alpha Company, 1/207th Aviation, and Anchorage resident, ensures the UH-60 Blackhawk's Norwegian passengers are prepared for their flight to their training area.

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo... Keeping the peace in Kosovo is often a new experience for the Soldiers called to the task. They meet new people, encounter unfamiliar cultures and customs and perform missions they may not have performed before training for their time with the Kosovo Force (KFOR). For members of the Alaska Army National Guard's Alpha Company, 1/207th Aviation, this trip to Kosovo is different for another reason.

"This is the first Title 10 activation (mobilized for active duty) deployment for the Alaska Army Guard in our state ever," said First Lieutenant John Stout, a platoon leader and pilot with the company who normally lives in Anchorage.

Since arriving in February, the unit has been busy.

"We do a lot of VIP transport and reconnaissance to see the [infantry] area of responsibility," said Stout. "We also do training with the infantry. Sometimes they might want to be inserted by helicopter for training benefit."

A recent mission was both familiar and new for the aviators as they provided transportation for Norwegian soldiers conducting a training exercise in an abandoned town.

"This was a fairly routine mission for us," said Chief Warrant

Officer Chuck Hosack, a pilot who is also from Anchorage. "The only thing that made it different was we worked with the Norwegians."

Working with the non-U.S. troops provided a new experience for the Americans.

"I haven't dealt with many units like that in the past and it gave us an opportunity to learn what a unit like that needs as far as aviation support, types of planning, and landing zones that haven't been surveyed," said Stout.

The Alaskans learned other lessons, as well.

"The previous day we had rehearsals so I got to talk to the platoon leader," Stout said. "It was great for me to get to talk to their leadership and interact with them to see what type of planning they were doing."

The unit members said all these new experiences and lessons will benefit their unit.

"I expect we will all come away from this mission feeling good about how we have done," Stout said. "I expect a lot of people in our company will have become more proficient and experienced as pilots. I think this deployment will give them the opportunity to work on areas they didn't get to before." ■

Saving Lives in Kosovo

COMBAT LIFE SAVER

Story and Photo by Sergeant Jon Soucy

29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Maryland Army National Guard



Saving Lives. Using a volunteer from the fire department, Specialist Logan Haller, a medic attached to the 2/136th Infantry, demonstrates techniques for clearing obstructed airways.

CAMP MONTEITH, Kosovo... The tall man wearing dark blue stood up and put his hands to his throat. A piece of hamburger was lodged in his throat, preventing him from breathing. At that moment a shorter man positioned himself behind the choking man, wrapped his arms around the taller man's midsection and administered two quick abdominal thrusts. Once the piece of food was dislodged the two men switched positions and the taller man became the one to dislodge an obstruction from the other man's airway.

The hamburger and blocked airways weren't real and the two men were members of the Kamenice/Kosovska Kamenica Fire Department who were undergoing a modified Combat Lifesaver Course taught to them by medics attached to Alpha Company, 2/136th Infantry. As a way to improve on the knowledge base of those at the fire station, the soldiers have been spending two

hours each Monday evening teaching combat life-saver skills since mid-April.

"We really hope to raise their level of confidence and competence with their medical skills," said Specialist Logan Haller, a medic from Anchorage, attached to the unit who was teaching a class on airway management.

The firefighters at the station had about two weeks of training on medical tasks about five years ago," said Sergeant Jerome Brodmarkle, a medic from Aitken, Minnesota, also attached to the unit.

"The fire chief stated that he was concerned with the perishable skills that his fire department has," said Brodmarkle, who was largely responsible for organizing the training. "He wanted to make sure that they stayed trained and perhaps grow in some training and expertise rather than lose them."

The classes are largely based on the Army's Combat Lifesaver Course, but with a few modifications.

"What we're doing is a modified form of the Combat Lifesaver Program, gearing it more toward the firefighter," Haller said. "In addition, unlike the Combat Lifesaver Course, the soldiers don't cover how to give intravenous injections because of health and safety concerns."

The response from the fire department members has been very positive.

"It's been great," Haller said. "They've got a lot of enthusiasm. They really want to learn. Practically every time we teach them, they want to know more – and then we run out of time."

The experience has been equally positive for the soldiers involved in teaching the classes.

"It's been really enlightening and rewarding," Brodmarkle said. "This is what I came to Kosovo to do, to teach and to help out."

But perhaps more importantly, the soldiers are taking steps to ensure that the program continues on after they rotate out of Kosovo.

"I'm trying to put this program together so that it can be taught years from now," Brodmarkle said. "My goal is to make sure the fire chief has a copy of it and to make sure that the task forces that come after us can teach it, too – and keep the recertification going."

For the soldiers, this is a way to make a lasting, positive change in the region.

"I have something concrete I can do," Haller said. "I can leave guys with skills. It really helped me see the difference I'm making here. We have something out there that says 'Hey, we came here, we helped them out and now their lives are better. Now they can help their fellow men out.'"

And that, according to the soldiers, is the ultimate goal of the program. ■

Campbell Receives Second Star in Juneau

Alaska National Guard's Adjutant General Promoted by Governor Murkowski

Story by John Manly



JUNEAU...

Governor Frank H. Murkowski promoted Craig E. Campbell to the rank of Major General during a ceremony on the lanai at the State Office Building in Juneau recently.

Campbell, who serves as Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard, is the Commissioner for the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. He is also the senior military advisor to the Governor. He

directs the activities of nearly 5,000 civilian employees and military members in 77 communities across the state.

"Less than 17 months ago, it was my personal pleasure to interview Craig Campbell to lead our Department of Military & Veterans Affairs," Murkowski said. "It was in many ways an easy decision to make, I knew he had equal amounts of the right training, the right experiences and a willingness to do the work necessary to accomplish the many missions of the department. I knew we'd need someone to step up to advocate for Alaska's veterans – a person with the vision, principles and motivation to accomplish the many tasks that have been placed before this department – someone *Ready to Serve*."

The general received his second star under clear blue skies in an outdoor ceremony attended by 38 Foreign Defense Attaches, general officers from countries around the world who were in

Alaska visiting American military installations. Campbell's wife, Anne Marie, and family were also in attendance.

Murkowski noted the DMVA's accomplishments, under Campbell's leadership during the past 17 months, including:

- Reorganizing the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management to meet the threats associated with the Global War on Terrorism.
- Expanding communications capabilities of Alaska's emergency responders – police, fire, civil authorities, the Guard and the rest of the military – across all jurisdictions.
- Deploying more than 1,000 Alaska National Guard soldiers and airmen to missions defending our nation – to Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Kosovo, Germany, Turkey, the Philippines, Korea, Thailand, Japan, Guam, India and elsewhere.
- Redefining the Alaska Army National Guard to ensure their relevance, readiness and reliability.
- Preparing the Alaska Army National Guard for taking on the operation of America's Missile Defense Program at Ft. Greely.
- Expanding operations and activities of the Alaska Air National Guard into Space Surveillance at Clear Air Force Station.
- Redirecting the Alaska National Guard into a "Joint Operations" activity – ensuring the best use of soldiers and airmen.
- Seeking new aircraft for search and rescue and support missions for both the Alaska Army National Guard and the Alaska Air National Guard.
- Increasing the outreach and impact for Alaska's youth-at-risk through expansion of the Alaska Military Youth Academy into the Interior.
- Becoming the dominant advocate for veterans and their families, including getting the first Veterans Home in Alaska. ■



Campbell Receives 2nd Star in Juneau. Governor Frank H. Murkowski promoted Craig E. Campbell to Major General during a ceremony at the State Office Building in Juneau, April 30. He was joined at the event by his wife Anne Marie and family. Campbell serves as Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard and as Commissioner for the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. He is also senior military advisor to the Governor. Major General Campbell directs the activities of nearly 5,000 civilian employees and military members in 77 communities across the state. Photos: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK-PA

Joint Forces

Ready to Serve



Commentary by Major Mike Haller

Ready to Serve also means ready to change; ready to adapt to the needs of our Forces – ready to fit in and bring added value; and, to move forward with energy, purpose and determination.

Joint Forces planning, operations, training and resourcing are clearly here to stay. Just over a year ago, Lieutenant General Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, started the entire Army and Air National Guard up the trail and into the future.

The Alaska National Guard has always been about change, about adjustment to the times and situations our nation and our state (or territory) found itself in. Twenty years ago, who could have predicted the Alaska Air Guard would birth a Tanker Wing, add Rescue Forces, get involved in Space Surveillance, or that the Alaska Army Guard would run the Nation's missile defense system? Yet, we're either now doing these missions full up or we're closing in on the 100 percent mark. And we're doing them well. The necessity for change is upon us.

Ready to Serve is not simply a billboard wish. It has become our mission – our way of life. We've proven it over and over – through our service in World War II, the Cold War, reaching out to our neighbors during disasters and emergencies, in a thousand rescues, and now in the War on Terrorism. ■

We will cover Joint Forces Commander's Conference highlights and lay out the 'Transformation' plans for both the Alaska Army and Air National Guard in the Fall Edition of Warriors due in October



Joint Forces. Key to successful planning, training, operations. Major General Craig Campbell, center, hosted the first Alaska National Guard Joint Forces Commander's Conference in May. Among attendees: Lieutenant General James Campbell, Commander - US Army Pacific; Lieutenant General Victor Renuart, Vice Commander – Pacific Air Forces; Lieutenant General Roger Schultz, Director - Army National Guard; Lieutenant General Daniel James III, Director - Air National Guard; and many other distinguished leaders who came to take part and present at the conference.

Photo: Specialists Kelsea Vandergriff and Laura Griffin, 117th MPAD

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Homeland Security &

Last Frontier More Secure

Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management Established; Civil Defense Statutes Updated

Story by Jamie Littrell



Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management Director David Liebersbach briefs the Mongolian Delegation on Alaskan emergency management practices and operations. Photo: Lieutenant Colonel Mark Bour, JFHQ-AK (Air)

Senate Bill 385 passed on the final day of the 23rd Alaska Legislative session, marking a momentous step in securing the Last Frontier.

SB 385, sponsored by Senator Fred Dyson, Eagle River, and Representative Nancy Dahlstrom, Eagle River, does three major things for the State of Alaska. It officially creates the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, it updates Alaska's Civil Defense statutes, and it creates the Legislative Homeland Security and Emergency Management Subcommittee which will review homeland security and disaster issues.

The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, under Director David Liebersbach, is a fairly new entity that combines the long-standing Division of Emergency Services with the burgeoning Division of Homeland Security. This union effectively streamlines the management of the Division and combines the activities of the two separate divisions.

"The Division of Homeland Security, when it was enacted by Governor Murkowski, was a co-division with the Division of Emergency Services," said Liebersbach. In addition, Liebersbach stated, "Senate Bill 385 clarifies and names in statute the practices that we've been operating under for the past nine months, referring to the two Divisions acting under one management organization. The combination of divisions also saves about \$150,000 in personnel costs."

The legislative subcommittee created by SB 385 falls under the Joint Armed Services committee and will be established at the beginning of each legislative session. The subcommittee will be tasked with reviewing confidential activities, plans, reports, and recommendations from the Division on matters concerning terrorism, disasters, and other State emergencies.

The subcommittee will be formed to review Divisional accomplishments and weigh them against our performance standards that are set forth by the Legislature. Subcommittee members will also have security clearances to be able to review plans for protecting principle infrastructure around the State.

However, one of the most important measures taken with the passage of SB 385 is the updating of Alaska's Civil Defense statutes. The original statutes were enacted back in 1951 and have not undergone major revisions since. With the events of September 11, 2001, burned into everyone's conscience, bringing the statutes to date with the ongoing war on terror was a major issue to be dealt with.

The updates will allow the Governor to take action before an event occurs, if he has enough credible intelligence information, and not just react afterward. It makes State government more proactive rather than reactive in protecting Alaskans. ■

Emergency Management

Mitigation in Full Swing

Story by Jamie Littrell

The warmer temperatures and better weather of springtime in Alaska are a welcome sight for all Alaskans, and for the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management's Mitigation section it signifies a time to hit the road. Their job is to go out into the communities of the Last Frontier and work with the residents to make sure steps have been taken to eliminate or reduce the effects a natural or man-made disaster would have on that city, town, or village.

"Our public outreach programs really thrive in the summer-time with all of the fairs and other outdoor activities that go on this time of year," said Scott Simmons, the lead mitigation specialist for DHS&EM. "But it's not particularly busier than the rest of the year. Even in winter, we have requests for us to come out to businesses and schools to hold educational sessions."

Part of the mitigation mission is educating the public on what they can do to reduce the risk of property damage or personal injury in the event of a disaster. The one disaster most people associate with the Alaska is earthquakes. That's why this past March, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Good Friday Earthquake of 1964, Emergency Management Specialist Tom Smayda worked with the Alaska Earthquake Information Center, the University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute, the U.S. Geological Survey, and numerous other agencies to update and distribute the booklet *Are You Prepared for the Next Big Earthquake in Alaska?* The booklet included information on what to do during and after an earthquake, how to prepare for one, and how to prepare for possible tsunamis that may accompany a large quake. It is available online at www.aEIC.alaska.edu.

The original booklet was 10 or 11 years old and there were a lot of process changes in earthquake preparedness that needed to be made, so Smayda worked over the last two or three years to garner support to update this booklet. With this year marking the 40th anniversary of the 1964 earthquake, it was the impetus for other State and federal agencies to come together with Smayda and the rest of the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management staff and publish an updated version.

However, the best-known tool the Mitigation section has for educating the public about earthquakes is the Earthquake Cottage. The "Quake Cottage" is able to simulate a shallow depth earthquake up to an 8.0 magnitude. Inside, the cottage is designed to resemble a typical living room set-up with an entertainment center, computer desk with computer, and kitchen cabinets, each secured with straps and fasteners, and meant to demonstrate that even though major earthquakes are violent, they can be survivable.

Recently, the Quake Cottage paid a visit to Northwood Elementary School in West Anchorage. Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management staff members Rob Fitch, Michelle Heun, Robert Gioffre, and Jamie Littrell talked to three Kindergarten classes about earthquake safety and gave the children a chance to experience a major quake.

The Quake Cottage already has a full summer and fall schedule ahead with visits to a neighborhood Safety Day in South Anchorage, the Governor's Picnic in July, the University of Alaska Anchorage, and a weeklong trip to Fairbanks-area schools this September. ■



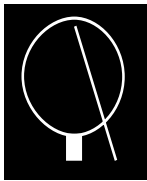
Northwood Elementary School students got a chance to quake, rattle and roll when a State earthquake mitigation team visited their school. Public awareness and education are important in the ongoing efforts to remind Alaskans of the challenges and dangers of living in 'earthquake country'.

Photo: Jamie Littrell, DHS&EM

A Record Near the Roof of North America



Arctic Eagles land on Mt. Foraker. An Alaska Army National Guard UH-60L Black Hawk helicopter from the 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation Regiment "Arctic Eagles" conduct high altitude training on Mt. Denali and 17,400-foot Mt. Foraker. The Arctic Eagles crews from Anchorage and Juneau set a new world altitude landing record for the Black Hawk helicopter during the exercise. Such landings are hazardous and only a handful of US military and civilian units are capable of such operations. Photo: Mark Farmer, Associated Press



Family Support

Guard Family Program is Planning for Reunions

Preparing for more change important to success of families being back together

Story contributed by *Army One Source*

Despite the best of intentions, the service member or the partner at home may be too exhausted, busy or anxious to prepare the way they would like to for the reunion. Combined with high expectations – and sometimes unrealistic hopes – for the reunion, this can lead to disappointment.

Unpredictable timing can also get in the way of happy and relaxed reunions. Both partners need to understand that late flights, bad weather, incorrect passenger lists, family emergencies and missed phone calls or messages can spoil even the most careful plans.

What you can do

- *Do your best to find out and communicate the details of the return plan*, and to keep yourself and your partner updated on any changes to the schedule.
- *Make backup plans* in case the flight arrives at a time when the partner at home can't be there. This might happen because of a work schedule, children's needs, a family emergency or simply lack of advance notice. How will the service member get home? Are there phone numbers where the partner at home can be reached at different times of day and night?
- *Plan something special for each other*. The returning service member might bring gifts for those at home. The partner at home might plan a welcome-back meal or some other celebration.
- *Be ready to be understanding* and forgiving if the reality of the reunion doesn't match your plans and hopes.

What you both can do together

- *Keep talking*. Talk can help you get back together as a couple and as a family. Talk through your differences about household responsibilities and decision-making.
- *Don't force talk about the experience of war, but be open to it when the time is right*. If the service member is not ready to talk about his or her experiences during deployment, don't push it. It's often a better idea for the service member to talk through any tough experiences first with a chaplain, a family service center counselor, or another trusted advisor or friend. If you do talk about painful experiences as a couple, try hard to listen without judging.
- *Keep watching your spending*. Make sure you don't spend more than you're earning.
- *Be patient with each other and with your children*. It takes time to regroup as a family, and you can't rush a natural process. The service member should make a gradual effort to resume his or her role as an engaged parent – without buying the children's affection through spoiling or forcing the children's obedience with unnecessarily strict discipline.
- *Seek professional help if you think there is a problem*. Some anger and some tears can be expected after a long or difficult deployment, but excessive anger, mean-spirited fighting and violence are signs that you need help. Don't feel that you have to solve serious emotional problems on your own.

You can reach the Alaska National Guard's Family Assistance Center by phone at (907) 264-5346, toll free 888-917-3608 or at www.ak-prepared.com/dmva. ■



Napaskiak is located on the east bank of the Kuskokwim River, seven miles southeast of Bethel.

Sergeant Peter Williams of Napaskiak holds his daughter, Donna, during a briefing at a deployment ceremony Saturday, May 15, in Fairbanks. Williams is one of approximately 40 Alaska Army National Guard soldiers called to Federal Active Duty to perform security at the ground missile defense facilities at Fort Greely.

Photo: Specialist Michael Coleman, 117th MPAD



Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve

Support Employers of Guard & Reserve Members



North Pole City Mayor Jeff Jacobson has signed and accepts the employer support of the Guard and Reserve Statement of Support. ESGR members Jeri Wigdahl and Pete Villarreal met with the Mayor at the monthly city council meeting. The patriotic men and women of the National Guard and Reserve train to respond to their community and their country in time of need. ESGR's goal is to support America's employers who share their employees with the Department of Defense to ensure our national security.



Fairbanks Northstar Borough Mayor Jim Whitaker is presented with the ESGR Statement of Support Certificate, showing employer support to employees that serve in the National Guard and Reserve, by ESGR Members Pete Villarreal and Steve Lundgren.



Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee Members Steve Lundgren, Gloria Villarreal, Karen Washburn and Pete Villarreal present Fairbanks City Mayor Steve Thompson with the ESGR Statement of Support certificate signed by the Mayor, showing employer support to employees that serve in the National Guard and Reserve. The Statement of Support recognizes the National Guard and Reserve as essential to the strength of our nation and the well-being of our communities. The patriotic men and women of the National Guard and Reserve train to respond to their community and their country in time of need, and deserve the support of every segment of our society.

**TERRORISM FORCES US TO
MAKE A CHOICE. WE CAN BE AFRAID.
OR WE CAN BE READY.**

~ Lai Sun Ye, Office of Emergency Management ~

Next time there's a terrorist alert, you can feel helpless or you can feel prepared. It's up to you. The steps to readiness are not difficult. First, make an emergency supply kit for yourself and your family. Set aside supplies to survive three days at home. Water, food, first-aid supplies, clothing, a flashlight and a battery-powered radio. Next, develop a family communications plan so your family can stay in touch during an emergency. Third, learn how to respond to the different types of terrorist threats, such as biological, chemical and radiological.

That information, along with details about kits and plans, is available at www.ready.gov. Or, call 1-800-BE-READY (1-800-237-3239) for a free brochure, "Preparing Makes Sense. Get Ready Now."

READY

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Who We Are...

What do you enjoy doing in the summertime in Alaska?

LTC David Bassett

Inspector General
Alaska National Guard



"My favorite activities during the summer are float flying and fishing."

Mary C. Grediagin

Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management



"I love camping and hiking during the summertime."

1SG Andrew Blore

C Company, 3rd Battalion
297th Infantry (Scout)



"I like to spend my summers in Alaska trap shooting."

SSG Frank Phillips

Maintenance Control
297th Support Battalion



"My favorite summer activity is fly fishing on the Russian River."

Catherine L. Jones

Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management



"I enjoy traveling around the state...visiting my granddaughter in Fairbanks...and fishing, of course!"

PFC Christina Watson

Alaska Medical Command



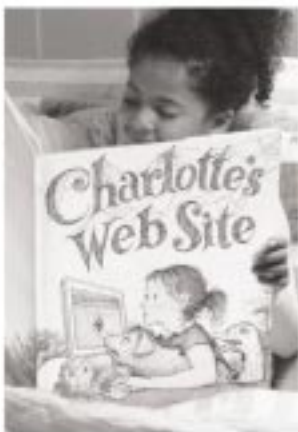
"My favorite summertime activity is sleeping."

SGT Inocencio Roman

B Company
297th Support Battalion



"Fishing is my favorite summertime activity."



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Legacy

Passages from *Soldiers of the Mists*

Throughout future Warriors issues, we will print chapters from Cliff Salisbury's book, "Soldiers of the Mist – Minutemen of the Alaska Frontier." The book was written after Salisbury approached former Adjutant General of Alaska (1986-1991), Major General John Schaeffer about the need to document the history of the Alaska Guard and Militia. Schaeffer believed the story of his people should be told and that it is important for present and future generations to understand the sacrifices our Minutemen and Women have always made for Alaska. Here, then, from Alaska National Guard Historian Emeritus Cliff Salisbury is...



Wrangell, Alaska, circa 1880. Wrangell was an early site for a U.S. military base. The citizens of Wrangell organized a militia for self-protection in 1880 after the Army was called away to the Indian Wars in Idaho. Photo: U.S. Army

The Americans – Part I

In the farthest northwest distance of America lay an area of mists and darkness where land, sky and sea seemed to merge into one great mystery. Ice Age followed Ice Age leaving a history open to interpretation only by trained scientists. The land behind the hiding mists over the Bering Land Bridge may have appeared bleak and featureless to those first hunters following migrating animals into Alaska. But from the beginning, that same magical magnet which would draw mankind to Alaska for the next thousands of years seemed to be a part of the original recipe which formed the land.

A force seemed to whisper the same message that has come down to the present generation of true Alaskans. "This is the place – there is no other like it on earth and this shall be home." The winds of time sang a song which said, "I am beautiful, I can be cruel, but I am worth fighting for." Those first people recognized value and formed a great heritage for the unnumbered generations to follow who would be pleased to call themselves Alaskans.

The first people brought the original methodology of history with them. The spoken history of Alaska was retold from

primary source to secondary source – generation to generation – for at least 15,000 years, maybe more. Those stout sons of survival, descending down through the generations, would pass on stories of courage, loyalty and mighty warrior feats. Was it the ancient tradition of defending the family unit that produced the fierce pride and deep patriotism found in today's Native Alaskan Guardsmen and Women?

Alaska was shaped by fire, ice, water and wind. The elements tempered manhood into steel and produced Alaska's first warriors. The very nature of this rugged land produced a need for Minutemen and thus was born a warrior spirit which would remain forever within Alaska's first people. The strategic location of the land cemented the concept from the beginning of time and the winds of legend swirled stories of war and warriors across the year of unwritten history.

Delores Albert-Jack, a Tlingit poet from Angoon, Alaska, has a feeling for this warrior spirit that could never be experienced by a non-Native. She describes her feelings beautifully in a preface to a poem about America's failure to honor its Vietnam veterans.

"Since I was a youngster, soldiership was a subject that was handled with care. My ancestors impressed upon me that soldiers are treated with honor. Only they can dishonor themselves. Somewhere along the line, I was taught that I came from the land. Before the whiteman came, we held this mystery dear. Anyone who defends this land is highly recognized. Even if our warriors/soldiers returned unvictoriously they were treated with much respect. They put their lives on the line for the land which included us. Because of our belief, we greet and take care of our warriors/soldiers. Although Indians in general are called down, cut short and humiliated, they hold more dignity than most. They know what it means to fight, to lose, and to win. The bottom line is that we take care of our fighting unit.

"When the situation called for it, our Tlingit people banded together for strength and number. We had an unwritten alliance with other Clans in Southeastern Alaska. The Plains Indians have this unspoken code also. I speak of a time when honor held its rightful place and was given when it was merited. Although I did not live technically in the times of old, it was instilled in me. I could close my eyes and look back to those times."



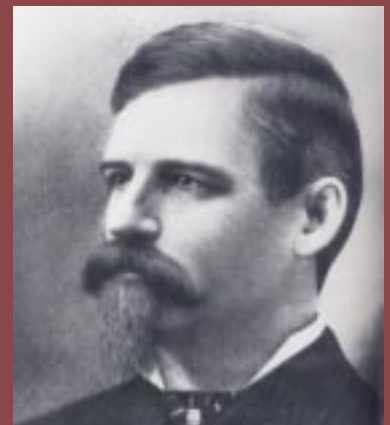
Governor John Brady (1867 - 1906) worked harder than earlier governors to establish a National Guard but the government in Washington, D.C., continued to ignore Alaska's needs. Photo: Alaska State Library, Juneau

This inner strength or warrior spirit which carried native Alaskans through a sometimes violent unwritten history helped them survive an even more dangerous written history – the coming of the whites. The written history of Alaska began during the reign of Czar Peter the Great of Russia (1682-1725). Although Cossacks had been pushing towards Siberia for nearly a hundred years, it was not until Peter's time that

the Russian Empire gained the foothold in Eastern Siberia that would make possible Vitus Bering's voyage of discovery to Alaska in 1741. Neither Peter nor Bering would live to see the settlement of Alaska, but within two years Russian traders pushed east along the Aleutian Islands and came in contact with the Aleutian people.

There may have been as many as 30,000 Aleuts at one time before the coming of the Russians. Many were robbed, murdered and enslaved and their numbers declined rapidly. Though often pictured as mild and helpless, they in fact were endowed with the warrior spirit and fought back when possible. They survived in a harsh sea world and successfully hunted in the world's most severe climate. Their skills were needed to keep the Russians in the New World.

Even before the Russians enslaved them, they practiced the techniques of war. They raided, feuded and fought amongst themselves and with others. It appears they used a sort of compound bow and poisoned lances in early wars and knew about metal. They also used a form of body armour along with clubs, daggers and battle helmets. They showed a special kind of courage but were no match for the Russians and nearly perished. ■



Governor Alfred P. Swineford (1885 - 1889) was one of the first government officials to push for a National Guard in Alaska. He was unsuccessful despite the growing need for an increased military role in Alaska. Photo: Alaska State Library, Juneau

Next *Legacy* installment from *Soldiers of the Mists* series: Part II of 'The Americans.'

Soldiers of the Mists was published by Pictorial Histories Publishing of Missoula, Montana, March 1992. It is available through fine bookstores throughout Alaska and online.



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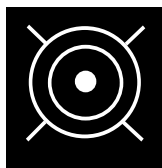
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Legion of Merit



Brig. Gen. Craig Christensen . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
Brig. Gen. Timothy Scott. JFHQ-AK (Air)

Meritorious Service Medal



CMSgt Heidi Flynn 176th CES
MSG Gordon B. Evans 3rd Bn
1st Sgt. Troy T. Nicolson. . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
MSgt Jeffery Brunello 176th MOF
MSgt Herbert Johnston 176th MSF
MSgt Christine Carlin-Meier 176th MXS
MSgt Tony Ashcraft 176th LRS
MSgt Mercedes Beck. 176th LRS
MSgt Gary Bivins 176th LRS
MSgt Michael Medeiros. 206th CBCS

Army Commendation Medal



MSG James F. Helm JFHQ-AK (Army)

Air Force Commendation Medal



Capt Candis Olmstead 176th Wg
SrA Oliver Andrus Jr. 176th LRS

Army Achievement Medal



SSG John T. Carrico R&R Cmd

Air Force Achievement Medal



MSgt Charles Whittaker 176th CF
TSgt John Cleveland 176th LRS
TSgt Jennifer Dooley. 176th WG
SrA Robert Baldwin 176th CES

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal



MSgt David Matthews. JFHQ-AK (Air)
SSgt Jenny Hagensieker JFHQ-AK (Air)
SGT Bradley B. Robinson 504th MP

AK Distinguished Service Medal



MSG Gordon B. Evans 3rd Scout Bn
SFC Otto H. Cornthwaite 3rd Scout Bn
SFC Arthur M. Standrige 3rd Scout Bn
SSG Jesse Daniels 3rd Scout Bn

Alaska Commendation Medal



SFC Robert E. Trombley Jr. Med Cmd

Alaska Community Service Medal



SFC Jimmy H. Whitmore . . . 297th Support Bn

Senior NCO of the Quarter

SMSgt Bill Dixon 168th ARW

NCO of the Quarter

TSgt Greg Pippin 168th ARW

Airman of the Quarter

SrA Scott Gracik 168th ARW

Order of Saint Maurice

COL Allen Ezzell JFHQ-AK (Army)
COL Dennis Kline 207th Inf Gp (Scout)
COL Marc Williams JFHQ-AK (Army)
LTC Mike Bridges 207th Inf Gp (Scout)

Order of Samuel Sharp

COL Steve Balmer JFHQ-AK (Army)

Expert Infantryman Badge



**207th Long Range
Surveillance Detachment (LRSD)**

Staff Sergeant Mike Grunst
Sergeant Eryk Crawford
Specialist David Doxey
Specialist Clinton Shahan



American Soldiers. A four-member team of the Alaska Army National Guard's 207th Long Range Surveillance Detachment receive their Expert Infantryman's Badge during ceremonies at Ft. Wainwright. Photo: Tech Sergeant Brian Shumbohm, 168th ARW

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 Richard S. WilliamsJFHQ-AK (Army)
 Colleen Hough176th MDS

Lieutenant Colonel

Beth A. LawRecruiting Command
 Dirk Cain144th AS
 Scott Fell144th AS
 Sam Walker176th ACS
 Patty Wilbanks176th MXS
 Mark BourJFHQ-AK (Air)
 Nathan Braspenninckx210th RQS

Major

Mark Mommsen144th AS

Captain

Donna W. HoopesMedical Command
 Jared E. Wandell207th Inf Gp (Scout)
 Mark Mommsen144th AS

First Lieutenant

Sharyl Worrell210th RQS
 Eric Oakes210th RQS

Chief Warrant Officer 3

Pamela A. French1/207th Avn Bn

Chief Warrant Officer 2

Jason R. Malone1/207th Avn Bn
 Brian R. Stephenson1/207th Avn Bn

Sergeant Major

Gordon T. Choate1st Scout Bn

Chief Master Sergeant

Peter Meacham176th ACS

Army Master Sergeant (E-8)

Ronald A. Braun1/207th Avn Bn

Senior Master Sergeant

Vicente Mandeville176th APF
 Fred Heiker144th AS
 Clifford Stockton176th CES

Sergeant First Class

Jerome T. Arisman297th Support Bn
 Arthur D. Hayes1/207th Avn Bn
 Sean O. HitchcockJFHQ-AK (Army)

Master Sergeant (E-7)

William Beltzer176th ACS
 Robert Braley, Jr.176th CES
 Karl Howard176th MXG
 Robert Hughes176th LRS
 Paul Nelson210th RQS
 Steven Slagle210th RQS
 Dennis Timmons176th ACS
 Kenneth Weber144th AS
 Christopher Widener210th RQS
 Brian Anderson176th ACS
 William Goodwin210th RQS

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Henry A. Bendt Jr.1st Scout Bn
 Trevor E. HodgeJFHQ-AK (Army)
 Gordon R. Howe1/207th Avn Bn
 William J. Yeo103rd CST
 Sean Mitchell210th RQS
 William Hinman176th SFS
 John Smith144th AS

Technical Sergeant

Matthew Hermes176th ACS
 Randall Smith176th LRS
 Clinton Walker176th CF
 Matthew Hermes176th ACS
 Donna Keib176th ACS
 Leah Kuipers176th ACS
 Amber Oneal176th MSF
 Kim Henderson144th AS
 Timothy Cottingham103th CST

Sergeant (E-5)

Ira M. Chikoyar1/207th Avn Bn
 Mark G. Delgado297th Support Bn
 George A. Koval II1/207th Avn Bn
 Lisa A. Thompson1/207th Avn Bn
 Michelle A. WilsonJFHQ-AK (Army)

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Eugene Burke Jr.176th MXS
 Chadwick Jennings176th CES
 Matthew Zirkle176th MXS
 Victor Pate III206th CBCS

Joshua Roberts176th LRS
 Joseph Sanger176th CES
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Specialist (E-4)

Julius T. Green2nd Scout Bn
 Duane S. Hoskins1/207th Avn Bn
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 Brandon T. Kasayulie2nd Scout Bn
 Joanna L. Knight1/207th Avn Bn
 Thomas P. McLaughlin207th Inf Gp (Scout)
 Angel R. Sanchez3rd Scout Bn
 Jeffrey A. Simeonoff3rd Scout Bn
 David N. Sims2nd Scout Bn
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 Daniel Thornburg176th AMXS
 Beau Bellamy206th CBCS
 Brian Roberts176th MSX
 Jesse Swensgard176th MXS
 Eric Brinkman176th AMXS
 Thomas Hough144th AS

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 1/207th Avn Bn

MSgt Standord J. Corey
 JFHQ-AK (Army)

CW4 Dave Deming
 297th Support Bn

MSgt Gordon B. Evans
 3rd Scout Bn

Major Lexia A. Frasher
 Medical Command

Sgt Ronnie G. Hunmuller
 1/207th Avn Bn

SSgt Harry G. Nick
 2nd Scout Bn

1Sgt Troy T. Nicolson
 JFHQ-AK (Army)

CW4 Verlon C. Pierce
 JFHQ-AK (Army)

SFC Robert E. Trombley Jr.
 Medical Command

CMSgt Ray Reckie
 JFHQ-AK (Air)



Brigadier General Tim Scott, commander of the Alaska Air National Guard, presented the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal to Master Sergeant Dave Mathews who is assigned to Human Resources at Joint Forces Headquarters – Air, of the Alaska National Guard.

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Melissa Marshall

*Graduated Cum Laude from UAA – May 2004
B.S. in Technology with Minor in Business*

Warriors Training Schedule

Here are the inactive duty training dates for all Alaska Army and Air National Guard units. Dates for subordinate units are the same as their parent headquarters, unless otherwise indicated. All dates are subject to change. Most Alaska Army Guard units perform annual training (AT) through the winter.


	August	September	October	November
Alaska National Guard				
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Air only)	7 – 8	11 – 12 18 – 19	2 – 3	6 – 7
Alaska Army National Guard				
207th Infantry Group	6 – 8	17 – 19		
1/207th Aviation Regiment	6 – 8	17 – 19		
Regional Training Institute	7 – 8	17 – 19	23 – 24	20 – 21
Alaska Air National Guard				
168th Air Refueling Wing	7 – 8	18 – 19	2 – 3	6 – 7
176th Wing	7 – 8	None	2 – 3 + 30 – 31	None
206th Combat Communications Sqdn	7 – 8	11 – 12	2 – 3	6 – 7

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